

Claims 1-19: Canceled

1 **20.** (currently amended) The method set forth in claim ~~17-25~~ wherein:

2 the step of making a lay-up includes the steps of:

3 wrapping each tube in the joint with a first carbon fiber fabric that is impregnated with the

4 matrix material, the ends of the fabric extending beyond the tube;

5 wrapping the ends of the carbon fiber fabric that is wrapped around a given tube around the

6 tube the given tube joins to;

7 wrapping the entire joint in a second carbon fiber fabric whose fibers have an orientation

8 different from that of the fibers in the first carbon fiber fabric.

1 **21.** (canceled)

1 **22.** (canceled)

1 **23.** (original) The method set forth in claim 20 wherein:

2 the step of wrapping the entire joint is done such that all seams in the second carbon fiber

3 fabric are at the top and bottom of the tubes and the second carbon fiber fabric is overlapped at the

4 seams.

1 **24.** (canceled)

1 **25.** (new) A method of making a lug for a joint that joins carbon fiber tubes in a bicycle
2 frame,

3 the method comprising the steps of:

4 making a lay-up of at least carbon fibers and a matrix material around the tubes at
5 the joint, the lay-up forming a continuous wrap around the tubes;

6 applying a mold to the joint, the applied mold's inner surface completely
7 enclosing the lay-up and the tubes at the joint and the inner surface having a lining of
8 silicon which is trapped between the inner surface and the enclosed lay-up and tubes; and

9 applying heat to the mold's interior, the heat causing the lay-up to cure and further
10 causing the trapped silicon to expand against the mold's inner surface and compact the
11 enclosed lay-up against the tubes evenly throughout the lug, whereby voids in the lug are
12 prevented.

1 **26.** (new) The method set forth in claim 25 wherein:

2 the mold conducts heat; and

3 in the step of applying heat, the mold is made of a heat-conducting material and
4 the heat is applied to the mold.

1 **27.** (new) the method set forth in claim 25 wherein:

2 the distance between the inner surface of the mold and a tube being joined
3 decreases as the distance from the joint increases,
4 whereby the lug tapers towards the tube.